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| SUBJECT Austrian Intermediaries Purchasing<br>ECA Goods for USIA | 25X1A | SUPPLEMENT TO<br>REPORT NO. | 25X1A      |
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1. Wilma WOES\* Austrian purchasing agent for USIA, believes it would be very difficult for Austrian Government authorities to prevent USIA from purchasing ECA goods on the Austrian market, because USIA is having notable success in using Austrian intermediaries for these purchases.\* The six Austrian businessmen now serving USIA as independent buyers\* are registered commercial agents and ostensibly make the USIA purchases for their own accounts. They offer advantageous schilling prices in cash for products imported from the U.S., and upon receipt of the invoices and other shipping documents, the agent has the purchase delivered by a non-USIA transport firm to a USIA warehouse. WOES believes that most Austrian businessmen dealing with these intermediaries do not realize that they are selling indirectly to the Soviets. The purchasing agents are compensated on a commission basis and earn large sums of money from the concealed USIA transactions. For example, WOES claims that in one three-week period, she had earned about 120,000 schillings.\*\*

2. WOES also claims that recently USIA offered her a position to work with a Soviet colonel from Chemnitz, Germany\* who is now in Vienna buying angle irons, structural steel, U.S.-manufactured drills bits, cable, ball bearings and other U.S. products. WOES believes that the Soviet officer has considerable prestige, and is authorized to purchase equipment valued at a maximum of 60,000,000 schillings for the uranium mines in Eastern Germany. She describes the Soviet officer as well dressed, educated, and widely travelled. WOES alleges that the Soviet colonel informed her that he especially desired her assistance, since he could not trust even the Soviet employees of USIA.\*\*\*

\* Comment: The correct spelling of WOES is possibly WOESS.

\*\* Comment: This sum seems to be unusually large compensation for an

Col. SULEIMANOV, Soviet purchasing agent, [redacted], to be in Vienna buying heavy equipment for the uranium mines in Saxony.

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the order of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.

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